CALPEEK

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***CAMPAIGN 2000:* BATTLE FOR SAN DIEGO MAYOR.**

Editor's note: With incumbent San Diego Mayor Susan Golding *termed out*, insiders are already speculating about a wild & wide open battle to become mayor of Calif.'s 2nd largest city. Here's our first update and analysis about this 2000 race, with an assist from consultant Jack Orr's *e-mail* newsletter...

...At this early stage, there are at least **11** people who show up on the *long list*. But only two are actively campaigning for mayor: San Diego Co. Sup. Ron Roberts and San Diego Councilwoman Barbara Warden. Roberts is better organized at this stage, having recently hired campaign consultant Tom Shepard and fundraiser Karolyn Dorsee. Roberts is a moderate GOPer who ran for mayor back in 1992 against Golding and got creamed. He's been running for Golding's job ever since. Like Roberts, Warden too is on the campaign trail, but hasn't yet signed a consultant. The rumor is that she'll hire George Gorton. Only a rumor. In past campaigns Warden has used Shepard, but obviously can't this time...

...Councilman Juan Vargas is seriously looking too and Larry Remer of the *Primacy Group* is his consultant. A few years ago Vargas challenged U.S. Rep. Bob Filner(D-San Diego) in the Demo primary, but his effort flopped. As for Filner, he says he ***is running*** for mayor. He's liberal, but a strong campaigner and can raise lots of money. His campaign team would include media consultant Bill Wachob of *The Campaign Group* and polling would be handled by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin. But Filner's direct mail consultant, Richard Schlackman, has closed his firm. Should Filner run, sources say Vargas would drop his bid for mayor and would instead run for Filner's U.S. House seat...

...Only one thing might make Filner *think twice* about running: State Sen. Steve Peace(D-La Mesa), who just won reelection for another term. Peace's name keeps popping up. He's being urged to run by some in the business community and has some good labor support as well. Like Filner, Peace can raise lots of money and has a winning track record. But as Chair of the Senate Budget Cmt., he's got other priorities and our sources say Peace is both *hot & cold* about running. There's no doubt that if he ran, he'd be a formidible contender...

...FYI: There are other names which have popped up as well. San Diego Sup. Court Judge Dick Murphy, a councilman from 1981-85, is rumored to be looking seriously. If he goes, consultant John Kern would run his campaign. And then there's Councilmembers Byron Wear & George Stevens, and even ex-Mayor Maureen O'Connor. Other names on the list include wealthy car dealer Steve Cushman and Peter Q. Davis of the Bank of Commerce. Stay tuned...

CLINTON'S STATE OF UNION ANOTHER WINNER.

Editor's note: Pres. Bill Clinton's State of the Union address was another hit according to the TV network polls: the President's job performance **after** the speech runs between **66-76%**; and of those who watched this speech, **80%** agreed with most of what the President said. Here's our analysis, against the backdrop of the ongoing *impeachment trial* in the U.S. Senate...

...In case you missed it, Pres. Clinton said, "The State of the Union is strong!" The U.S. has a balanced budget with a $70 billion surplus; 18 million new jobs have been created since 1992 and the U.S. has the lowest level of unemployment since 1957. With all this positive news, one has to wonder what the Clinton presidency would have been like if Monica Lewinsky had never been a White House intern???

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...And most all the pundits say the same thing about Pres. Clinton: when the chips are down, this man delivers. In other words, he thrives on adversity and shines in front of the TV camera or a live audience. The 1999 State of the Union address was another political masterpiece and its got his political enemies totally befuddled. And given his new poll numbers, the booming U.S. economy and the holes the President's lawyers are poking in the impeachment case, it's no wonder the 13 GOP House impeachment managers are depressed...

...Some of Clinton's key points may not fly with the GOP-controlled Congress, but they play well with the Demo base and with independents & moderates: **1)** Save social security FIRST; **2)** next save Medicare; **3)** improve health care (invest in long term care, pass a Patient's Bill of Rights, extend the Family Medical Leave Law); **4)** pass Clinton's Educational Accountability Act; **5)** raise the minimum wage by $1 over the next 2 years; **6)** increase defense spending; **7)** provide a safety net for family farms; and **8)** enact a 21st Century Crime Prevention Bill. This Clinton "wish list" is right out of *Center Field*...

...During the speech, several times the tv camera zeroed in on the GOP leadership team: Majority Leader Dick Armey, Whip Tom DeLay, GOP Policy Cmt. Chair Chris Cox and NRCC Chair Tom Davis. Want to bet what they were saying? How about: "That S.O.B. Clinton has screwed us again by stealing key parts of our agenda." And indeed some of the elements on Clinton's wish list do have GOP roots...

...Clinton did offer some selected tax cuts, but **not** the kind of cuts that GOP wants. They want a 10% across the board reduction. Although the 10% figure was not mentioned by CA U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D), she issued a news release after the address saying that she believes it would be the fair thing to do to return some of the surplus to taxpayers - but she would do that after Social Security has been "saved." Stay tuned...

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CALIF. ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE CHAIRS ANNOUNCED.
Editor's note: Here is a list of all the chairs and vice chairs of the Assembly's Standing Committees. FYI: as soon as the State Senate issues its list of Standing Committee chairs and vice chairs, we'll run those too..

Aging & Long Term Care - Alquist(D), chair ; Leach(R).
Agriculture - Cardoza(D), chair; Maldonado(R).
Appropriations - Migden(D), chair; Brewer(R).
Banking & Finance - Papan(D), chair; Cox(R).
Budget - Ducheny(D), chair; Runner(R).
Consumer Protection - Davis(D), chair; Leach(R).
Education - Mazzoni(D), chair; Campbell(R).
Elections & Reapp. - Vincent(D), chair; Frusetta(R).
Environmental Safety - Jackson(D), chair; Briggs(R).
Govt. Organization - Wesson(D), chair; Battin(R).
Health - Gallegos(D), chair; Baugh(R).
Higher Education - Lempert(D), chair; Baldwin(R).
Housing & Comm. Devel. - Lowenthal(D), chair; House(R).
Human Services - Aroner(D), chair; Ashburn(R).
Information Technology - Dutra(D), chair; Bates(R).
Insurance - Scott(D), chair; Oller(R).
International Trade - Havice(D), chair; Pacheco(R).
Judiciary - Kuehl(D), chair; Ackerman(R).
Labor & Employment - Steinberg(D), chair; Margett(R).
Local Government - Longville(D), chair; Maddox(R).
Natural Resources - Wayne(D), chair; Aanestad(R).
PERS - Correa(D), chair; Thompson(R).
Public Safety - Honda(D), chair; Cunneen(R).
Revenue & Taxation - Knox(D), chair; Kaloogian(R).
Rules - Hertzberg(D), chair; Olberg(R).
Transportation - Torlakson(D), chair; McClintock(R).
Utilities & Commerce - Wright(D), chair; Pescetti(R).
Veterans Affairs - Floyd(R), chair; Dickerson(R)
Water, Parks & Wildlife - Machado(D), chair; Dickerson(R).

16th AD SPECIAL UPDATE: BATTLE BETWEEN RUSSO AND HARRIS IS CLOSER THAN INSIDERS PREDICTED.
Editor's note: With a week to go until this Feb. 2nd special to replace Don Perata(D-Oakland) in the 16th Assembly District, insiders see a *very close race* between former Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris(D) and well-connected attorney and Alameda Co. Demo power Frank Russo. Here's our update...

...Sources say the winner in this Demo primary will be the candidate who not only banks the most absentee ballots, but who also has the troops on the ground on election day. And while Harris has almost *incumbent status*, Russo is proving to be a very able campaigner and fundraiser. Sources say Russo has received about 3,000 A/B applications and has a volunteer corps of about 100 people walking precincts and making phone

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calls daily. Russo also has received the endorsement of the Oakland Education Assn...

...Harris, who is backed by Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, is getting help from assembly staffers, who are either "volunteering" in the district or do phone banking after hours from Sacto. Harris also is getting much needed help from S.F. Mayor Willie Brown, his longtime friend. Harris has been endorsed by Alameda Co.'s Central Labor Council and the CA Demo Party...

...FYI: Majority Leader Kevin Shelley(D-S.F.), who was one of Russo's early supporters, has now ***also*** endorsed Harris. Sources say the pressure from Willie was just a little too much. But Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante and Assemblymembers Shelia Kuehl & Fred Keeley are hanging tough with Russo. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '99: **EARLY SPRING MUNI ELECTIONS.** Editor's note: There are a series of early Spring municipal elections slated in 1999. The leadoff election is Feb. 23rd in Burbank, but the biggest group of local elections takes place on Mar. 2nd when **61** cities (mostly in Southern Calif., but a few in the Central Valley and in Northern Calif.) take place. In ***Part I*** of this continuing series of reports about early Spring elections we'll focus on the big election in **Los Angeles** which takes place April 13th. Here's our report...

☒ ***14th District*** - In the L.A. City Council primary, the big news is that longtime incumbent Councilman Richard Alatorre won't seek reelection. Alatorre, for the past year or so, has jumped from one controvesy to another and has been hounded by the *L.A. Times.* Not good, but he leaves office with dignity in the view of some city hall insiders. There is a large field (19), but sources say there are only **4** in the top tier, plus **2** in a second tier. In the top tier: political consultant Victor Griego; Juan Jose Gutierrez, executive director of One Stop Immigration; Dr. Jorge Mancillas, So. Calif. SEIU political director; and Deputy DA Nick Pacheco, who is a member of the Elected Charter Reform Commission. In the 2nd tier: Alvin Parra, who ran against Alatorre four years ago; and former Olympic gold medal boxer Paul Gonzales, now a city commissioner...

☒ ***Incumbents NOT in Trouble*** - Councilmembers Joel Wachs(2nd), John Ferraro(4th), Ruth Galanter (6th), Mark Ridley-Thomas(8th) and Hal Bernson (12th) appear to be slam dunks for their last terms in office. Consultant Rick Taylor will handle Ferraro's campaign, while SG&A (Parke Skelton & Steve Gray-Barkan) will work on Galanter's and Ridley-Thomas' campaign. FYI: Ridley-Thomas has 6 rivals, but he's a solid favorite to win reelection...

☒ ***10th District*** - Councilman Nate Holden has a very serious challenge from The Rev. Madison Shockley, who already has been endorsed by the SEIU and a group called *Coalition L.A.* In addition, Shockley has $57,000 cash-on-hand (and with matching funds this will almost double). The longtime resident has hired The Kamber Group to run his campaign...

☒ ***7th District Special*** - The other council contest drawing lots of interest is a special to replace new State Sen. Richard Alarcon. Ten candidates took out papers, but **Calpeek** sources see only 5 serious candidates in the special. The front-runners are Alex Padilla, an aide to Assemblyman Tony Cardinas; and longtime Northeast S.F. Valley activist Corinne Sanchez. Former San Fernando Mayor Raul Godinez, community college executive Barbara Perkins and Ollie McCaulley (who ran against Alarcon as a GOP candidate) round out the second tier. Alarcon is backing Sanchez, as are County Sup. Gloria Molina, State Sen. Hilda Solis and Councilman Michael Feuer. SG&A Campaigns is running the Sanchez operation. Padilla is supported by Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, Cardinas, Assemblymembers Gil Cedillo, Tom Calderon, Lou Correa, Marco Firebaugh and Nell Soto. Sen. Joe Baca is aboard too, as is the powerful SEIU. Rick Taylor is Padilla's consultant, while Larry Levine is handling Perkins...

☒ ***Safety Bond Measure*** - Also appearing on the April 13th ballot is a $744 million bond measure for police & fire department facilities. Mayor Richard Riordan and most of the council support this measure, but with a 2/3rds requirement, it won't be easy. In 1995, a $171 million bond measure was rejected by voters. Stay tuned...

SOME INFO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CALPEEK. Deadlines for news & Marketplace Network are 12 noon each Wednesday. **Calpeek** is printed and mailed each Thursday. Our FAX ☎ is (310)657-4340. **Calpeek** does NOT make refunds on cancellations...

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***CAMPAIGN 2000*: THE RUN FOR THE WHITE HOUSE.**

Editor's note: **Calpeek** now has a list potential presidential candidates and some contact ☎. However, some of these phone numbers are for PACs. (The RNC supplied some of the GOP info)...

Gov. George Bush	(512)463-2000
Elizabeth Dole	1(877)248-DOLE
Dan Quayle	(602)607-9000
Steve Forbes	(800)760-1610
Lamar Alexander	(615)329-1932
U.S. Rep. John Kasich	(202)484-5710
U.S. Sen. John McCain	(602)604-2000
U.S. Sen. Bob Smith	(202)544-3343
Newt Gingrich	(202)296-0570
Gary Bauer	(202)479-9696
VP Al Gore	(202)456-2326
U.S. Sen. John Kerry	(202)224-2742
Bill Bradley	(973)731-2100 or (888)643-9799

...FYI: Steve Schmidt, who was Matt Fong's press secretary in *Campaign '98*, has been hired to be Lamar Alexander's Communications Director...Todd Harris, press secretary to San Diego Mayor Susan Golding and then at the NRCC, has been hired as press secretary for Kasich's exploratory bid...In case you missed it, Gary Bauer as resigned as chair of the *Campaign for Working Families PAC*. New chair is radio talk show host Michael Reagan...Check out the Jan. 25th issue of *Business Week*. There's a big story about Elizabeth Dole's tenure at the American Red Cross - and it's not a puff piece either...On the Demo side, Italian American Democratic Leadership Council (Mario Cuomo & Geraldine Ferraro honorary co-chairs), have endorsed Al Gore for President. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ ***Women to Chair L.A. & S.D. GOP*** - The Republican Central Committees of L.A. and San Diego Counties will be chaired women: Mary Toman in L.A. and Roxana Foxx in San Diego. Toman is the first woman to chair the L.A. Co. GOP. Foxx is the immediate past chair and first woman to chair the San Diego Lincoln Club...

■ ***Sports & Politics (Update)*** - In last week's **Calpeek**, we wondered (rhetorically) why the Carson City Council had NOT placed the proposed $180 million in bonds to help with the building of a new NFL stadium on the local ballot? Answer: if put to a vote, there's always the chance it might not pass - and if that happened, Carson might be out of the running for a new NFL franchise. So why didn't Carson's chief rival, *the New Coliseum*, play some political hardball and blitz by funding a referendum on the bonds? Answer: sources say the idea was discussed, but that's all...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: Ryan Nakagawa, 40, chief ethics officer of the Los Angeles Co. MTA, died Jan. 11th of complications of AIDS. R.I.P...

● GOP political operatives Dale Neugebauer and Matt Cunningham have formed Pacific Strategies. No office just yet, but Cunningham can be reached at (714) 998-9788 or at alcarbon@msn.com...

● San Diego GOP businessman and '98 U.S. Senate candidate Darrell Issa is the new chair of the San Diego Lincoln Club...

● Campaign consultant Maggie Shandera Linden has a new address: 15042 Reynosa Drive, Rancho Murieta, CA 95863. New ☎(916)354-0389...

● L.A.-based Greer/Dailey Public Affairs has a new ☎ - (213)615-1616. Same e-mail: grdailey@aol.com and same address...

● Steven W. Lew of Universal Studios has been reelected to a 2nd term as Chair of VICA (Valley Industry try & Commerce Assn.). Cathy Maguire of The Gas Co. is the Exec. Vice Chair; and Robert L. Scott is the Vice Chair...

● P/A consultant Ross Hopkins has been installed as the 1999 chair of the United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley...

● George T. Urch has joined Frank Wilson & Assoc. as director of P/A in the firm's Ontario office. ☎ (909) 945-4558. e-mail gurch@frankwilson.com...

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